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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/878,047	06/07/2001	Clinton L. Ballard	BA1.P26	1636

21450 7590 09/01/2004

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EXAMINER

TIV, BACKHEAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2151

DATE MAILED: 09/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/878,047	BALLARD, CLINTON L.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Backhean Tiv	2151	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 June 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) ✓ | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Detailed Action

Claims 1-17 are pending in this application.

Claim Objections

Claim 1 objected to because of the following informalities:

As per claim 1, line 5, recites "frst", this is a spelling mistake. The examiner will interpret "frst" as "first".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 6,185,605 issued to Kowaguchi in view of US Patent 6,779,178 issued to Lloyd et al.(Lloyd).

Kowaguchi teaches a method for mail-messaging on a global information network, wherein a user generates a prepared message, the method comprising the steps of:

commencing a first transmission from a source location to a destination address,
the first transmission comprising a message identifier corresponding to the prepared message(col.2, lines 1-5);

commencing a second transmission from the source location to a forwarding server, the second transmission comprising the mail message, wherein the second transmission is independent of the first transmission(col.2,lines 5-20);
receiving the message identifier at the destination address(col.2,lines 50-55); and
responding at the destination address to the message identifier by establishing a communication path to receive the mail message at the destination address(col.2,lines 1-20; it is implicit that there is a communication path to receive the mail message, since the receiving communication terminal receives the mail message).

However, Kowaguchi does not explicitly teaches packaging the prepared message and the corresponding message identifier into a mail message using a binary formatting protocol.

Lloyd teaches packaging the prepared message and the corresponding message identifier into a mail message using a binary formatting protocol(col.27, lines 45-49, lines57-60, col.28, line 1).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the method of Kowaguchi to explicitly add packaging the prepared message and the corresponding message identifier into a mail message using a binary formatting protocol as taught by Lloyd in order to incorporate information besides text data in an e-mail messages (Lloyd, col.58-60).

Art Unit: 2151

One skilled in the art would have been motivated to combine Kowaguchi and Lloyd in order to provide a method to personalize e-mail messages(Lloyd, col.2, lines 10-15).

As per claim 2, the method of claim 1, in which establishing a communication path comprises contacting the forwarding server with the message identifier; the method further comprising the steps of: identifying at the forwarding server the mail message corresponding to the message identifier(Kowaguchi, Fig.1,4); and transmitting the mail message from the forwarding server to the destination address using the binary formatting protocol(Kowaguchi, col.2, lines 24-35, Lloyd, col.28, line 1). Motivation to combine set forth in claim 1.

As per claim 3, the method of claim 1, wherein the step of packaging comprises the step of compressing the prepared message(Lloyd, col.2, lines 21-29; the HTML e-mail messages is interpreted as a compressed message).

Claims 4,6,7,9,10,11,13,14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 6,185,605 issued to Kowaguchi in view of US Patent 6,779,178 issued to Lloyd et al.(Lloyd) in further view of EP 1,259,036 issued to Yabe et al.(Yabe).

Kowaguchi in view of Lloyd teaches all the limitations of claim 1 and binary formatting protocol, however does not teach as per claim 4, wherein the first transmission comprises a mail notice, the mail notice including the message identifier and a source address, and wherein the step of responding comprises

Art Unit: 2151

contacting the forwarding server with the message identifier specified within the mail notice and contacting the source address specified within the mail notice; determining which one of the source address and the forwarding server respond first to contact with the destination address; commencing receipt of a transmission of the mail message in the binary formatting protocol from the one of the source address and forwarding server which responds first to contact with the destination address.

Yabe teaches wherein the first transmission comprises a mail notice, the mail notice including the message identifier and a source address, and wherein the step of responding comprises contacting the forwarding server with the message identifier specified within the mail notice and contacting the source address specified within the mail notice(col.2,lines9-21); determining which one of the source address and the forwarding server respond first to contact with the destination address(col.2,lines 22-37); commencing receipt of a transmission of the mail message from the one of the source address and forwarding server which responds first to contact with the destination address(col.2,lines38-45).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the method of Kowaguchi in view of Lloyd to explicitly add wherein the first transmission comprises a mail notice, the mail notice including the message identifier and a source address, and wherein the step of responding comprises contacting the forwarding server with the message identifier specified within the mail notice and contacting the source address

Art Unit: 2151

specified within the mail notice; determining which one of the source address and the forwarding server respond first to contact with the destination address; commencing receipt of a transmission of the mail message in the binary formatting protocol from the one of the source address and forwarding server which responds first to contact with the destination address as taught by Yabe in order to control e-mail deliver(Yabe, col.1, lines 44-46).

One skilled in the art would have been motivated to combine Kowaguchi and Lloyd and Yabe in order to provide a method to deliver e-mail to mobile communication devices(Yabe, col.1, lines 5-10).

As per claim 6, the method of claim 1, wherein the first transmission comprises a mail notice, the mail notice comprising the message identifier and a source address, and further comprising the steps of: receiving contact at the source address from the destination address(Yabe, col.2, lines 9-15); responsive to receiving contact at the source address, determining whether transmission of the mail message from the source location to the forwarding server is incomplete(Kowaguchi, col.6, lines 22-31); and when transmission to the forwarding server is still incomplete, pausing transmission of the mail message from the source location to the forwarding server, and transmitting the mail message from the source location to the destination address using the binary formatting protocol(Yabe, col.7, line31-col.8, line 29). Motivation to combine set forth in claim 4.

As per claim 7, the method of claim 6, further comprising the steps of:

Art Unit: 2151

when transmission of the mail message from the source location to the destination address fails(Yabe, col.5,line 55-col.6,line 5), resuming transmission of the mail message from the source location to the forwarding server(Kowaguchi, col.6, lines 22-31); and when transmission of the mail message from the source location to the destination address succeeds, aborting transmission of the mail message from the source location to the forwarding server(Yabe, Fig.6, it is implicit in the combination of the references that when the transmission of the mail message to the destination address succeeds that the transmission to the forwarding server will be aborted because there is no need to transmit to the forwarding server if the destination terminal receives the mail message). Motivation to combine set forth in claim 4.

As per claim 9, Kowaguchi teaches mail-messaging system for managing electronic mail communications over global information network, comprising:

- a source computer at which a first user generates a prepared message(col.3,lines 4-7);
- a destination computer which receives the prepared message(col.3,lines 9-10);
- a forwarding computer(col.3, line 10);
- a first communication link between the source computer and the forwarding server along which the mail message is transmitted(col.2,lines 5-20);

However, Kowaguchi does not explicitly teaches a mail program which processes the prepared message to generate a mail notice and a mail message,

Art Unit: 2151

the mail notice comprising a message identifier corresponding to the prepared message and a source address, the mail notice not including an entirety of the prepared message, the mail message comprising the prepared message in a prescribed format and the message identifier; a second communication link between the source computer and the destination computer along which the mail notice is transmitted; and a mail receipt program which responds to the mail notice to establish a third communication link to receive the mail message at the destination address using a binary formatting transmission protocol.;

Lloyd binary formatting protocol(col.27,lines 45-49, lines 57-60, col.28, line 1).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the method of Kowaguchi to explicitly add using a binary formatting protocol as taught by Lloyd in order to incorporate information besides text data in an e-mail messages (Lloyd, col.58-60).

One skilled in the art would have been motivated to combine Kowaguchi and Lloyd in order to provide a system to personalize e-mail messages(Lloyd, col.2, lines 10-15).

Kowaguchi in view Lloyd does not explicitly teach a mail program which processes the prepared message to generate a mail notice and a mail message, the mail notice comprising a message identifier corresponding to the prepared message and a source address, the mail notice not including an entirety of the prepared message, the mail message comprising the prepared message in a prescribed format and the message identifier; a second communication link

between the source computer and the destination computer along which the mail notice is transmitted; and a mail receipt program which responds to the mail notice to establish a third communication link to receive the mail message at the destination address.

Yabe teaches a mail program which processes the prepared message to generate a mail notice and a mail message, the mail notice comprising a message identifier corresponding to the prepared message and a source address, the mail notice not including an entirety of the prepared message, the mail message comprising the prepared message in a prescribed format and the message identifier(col.2, lines 9-21); a second communication link between the source computer and the destination computer along which the mail notice is transmitted(col.2, lines 9-21); and a mail receipt program which responds to the mail notice to establish a third communication link to receive the mail message at the destination address(col.2, lines 38-45).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the method of Kowaguchi in view of Lloyd to explicitly add a mail program which processes the prepared message to generate a mail notice and a mail message, the mail notice comprising a message identifier corresponding to the prepared message and a source address, the mail notice not including an entirety of the prepared message, the mail message comprising the prepared message in a prescribed format and the message identifier; a second communication link between the source computer and the destination computer along which the mail notice is transmitted; and a mail

Art Unit: 2151

receipt program which responds to the mail notice to establish a third communication link to receive the mail message at the destination address as taught by Yabe in order to control e-mail deliver(Yabe, col.1, lines 44-46).

One skilled in the art would have been motivated to combine Kowaguchi and Lloyd and Yabe in order to provide a system to deliver e-mail to mobile communication devices(Yabe, col.1, lines 5-10).

As per claim 10, the system of claim 9, further comprising:
means for the destination computer to contact the forwarding server with the message identifier(Kowaguchi, Fig.1, Fig.7); means for identifying at the forwarding server the mail message corresponding to the message identifier(Kowaguchi, Fig.14); and means for transmitting the mail message from the forwarding server to the destination address using the binary formatting transmission protocol(Kowaguchi, col.2, lines 24-35, Lloyd, col.28, line1).

Motivation to combine set forth in claim 9.

As per claim 11, the system of claim 9, further comprising:
means for the destination computer to contact the forwarding server with the message identifier(Kowaguchi, col.3, lines 4-19); means for the destination computer to contact the source address(Kowaguchi, col.3, lines 4-19); means for determining which one of the source address and the forwarding server respond first to contact with the destination address(Yabe, col.2, lines 22-37); and means for commencing receipt of a transmission of the mail message in the binary formatting transmission protocol from the one of the source address and

forwarding server which responds first to contact with the destination address(col.2, lines 38-45). Motivation set forth in claim 9.

Claim 13 is rejected based on the same rationale as claim 6 (see claim 6 above).Motivation to combine set forth in claim 6.

Claim 14 is rejected based on the same rationale as claim 7 (see claim 7 above). Motivation to combine set forth in claim 7.

Claim 5,12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 6,185,605 issued to Kowaguchi in view of US Patent 6,779,178 issued to Lloyd et al.(Lloyd) in further view of EP 1,259,036 issued to Yabe et al.(Yabe) in further view of US Patent 5,293,250 issued to Okumura et al.(Okumura).

Kowaguchi in view of Lloyd in further view of Yabe teaches all the limitations of claim 4, however does not explicitly teach as per claim 5, the method of claim 4, further comprising the step of suspending contact with the other one of the source address and forwarding server; and upon successful receipt of the mail message, notifying the sending address and the forwarding server that the mail message has been successfully received.

Okumura teaches further comprising the step of suspending contact with the other one of the source address and forwarding server; and upon successful receipt of the mail message, notifying the sending address and the forwarding server that the mail message has been successfully received.(col.2,lines 13-24)

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the method of Kowaguchi in view of Lloyd in further view of Yabe to explicitly add teaches further comprising the step of suspending contact with the other one of the source address and forwarding server; and upon successful receipt of the mail message, notifying the sending address and the forwarding server that the mail message has been successfully received as taught by Okumura in order to for user to know if an e-mail has reached the host computer(Okumura, col.1, lines 11-24).

One skilled in the art would have been motivated to combine Kowaguchi and Lloyd and Yabe and Okumura in order to provide a method to notify a destination terminal of a fact that an e-mail reaches a host computer(Okumura, col.1,lines 7-11).

Claim 12 is rejected based on the same rationale as claim 5 (see claim 5 above). Motivation to combine set forth in claim 5.

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 6,185,605 issued to Kowaguchi in view of US Patent 6,779,178 issued to Lloyd et al.(Lloyd) in further view of US Patent 6,047,326 issued to Kilkki.

Kowaguchi in view of Lloyd teaches all the limitations of claim 1, however does not teach as per claim 8, the method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of : determining a tally of bits successfully transmitted to the destination address; and uploading the tally and the source address to an accounting server

Art Unit: 2151

which allocates a fee, based upon the tally, to an account corresponding to the source address.

Kilkki teaches determining a tally of bits successfully transmitted to the destination address; and uploading the tally and the source address to an accounting server which allocates a fee, based upon the tally, to an account corresponding to the source address(Abstract).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the method of Kowaguchi in view of Lloyd to explicitly add determining a tally of bits successfully transmitted to the destination address; and uploading the tally and the source address to an accounting server which allocates a fee, based upon the tally, to an account corresponding to the source address as taught by Kilkki in order to conduct commerce over the Internet(Kilkki, col.1, lines 21-22)

One skilled in the art would have been motivated to combine Kowaguchi and Lloyd and Kilkki in order to provide a method to charge for usage of a network service connection(Kilkki, col.1,lines 5-9)

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 6,185,605 issued to Kowaguchi in view of US Patent 6,779,178 issued to Lloyd et al.(Lloyd) in further view of EP 1,259,036 issued to Yabe et al.(Yabe) in further view of US Patent 6,047,326 issued to Kilkki.

Kowaguchi in view of Lloyd in further view of Yabe teaches all the limitations of claim 9, however does not teach as per claim 15,

Art Unit: 2151

means for determining a tally of bits successfully transmitted to the destination address; and means for uploading the tally and the source address to an accounting server which allocates a fee, based upon the tally, to an account corresponding to the source address.

Kilkki teaches means for determining a tally of bits successfully transmitted to the destination address; and means for uploading the tally and the source address to an accounting server which allocates a fee, based upon the tally, to an account corresponding to the source address(Abstract).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the method of Kowaguchi in view of Lloyd in further view of Yabe to explicitly add means for determining a tally of bits successfully transmitted to the destination address; and means for uploading the tally and the source address to an accounting server which allocates a fee, based upon the tally, to an account corresponding to the source address as taught by Kilkki in order to conduct commerce over the Internet(Kilkki, col.1, lines 21-22)

One skilled in the art would have been motivated to combine Kowaguchi and Lloyd and Yabe and Kilkki in order to provide a method to charge for usage of an network service connection(Kilkki, col.1,lines 5-9).

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 6,185,605 issued to Kowaguchi in view of US Patent 6,779,178 issued

Art Unit: 2151

to Lloyd et al.(Lloyd) in further view of EP 1,259,036 issued to Yabe et al.(Yabe) in further view of US Patent 6,073,142 issued to Geiger et al.(Geiger).

Kowaguchi teaches a method for mail-messaging on a global information network, wherein a user generates a prepared message, the method comprising the steps of:

- sending a message identifier corresponding to the prepared message from a source location to a destination address(col.2,line 1-5),
- commencing transmission of the mail message from the source location to a forwarding server(col.2,lines 1-5);
- logging onto the global information network at the destination address(Fig.1);
- accessing mail destined for the destination address, the step of accessing comprising automatically responding to the message identifier by contacting the forwarding server, and transmitting the mail message from the forwarding server to the destination address(col.2,lines 36-49);

However, Kowaguchi does not explicitly teaches packaging the prepared message and the corresponding message identifier into a mail message using a binary formating protocol; the message identifier being sent to the destination address without the prepared message; receiving the message identifier at the destination address; deleting the mail message from the forwarding server upon receiving an indication of a successful receipt of the mail message at the destination computer.

Lloyd teaches packaging the prepared message and the corresponding message identifier into a mail message using a binary formatting protocol(col.27, lines 45-49, lines57-60, col.28, line 1).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the method of Kowaguchi to explicitly add packaging the prepared message and the corresponding message identifier into a mail message using a binary formatting protocol as taught by Lloyd in order to incorporate information besides text data in an e-mail messages (Lloyd, col.58-60).

One skilled in the art would have been motivated to combine Kowaguchi and Lloyd in order to provide a method to personalize e-mail messages(Lloyd, col.2, lines 10-15).

Kowaguchi in view of Lloyd, does not explicitly teach the message identifier being sent to the destination address without the prepared message; and receiving the message identifier at the destination address.

Yabe teaches explicitly teach the message identifier being sent to the destination address without the prepared message(col.2,lines 9-21); and receiving the message identifier at the destination address(col.2,lines 22-37).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the method of Kowaguchi in view of Lloyd to explicitly add the message identifier being sent to the destination address without the prepared message; and receiving the message identifier at the destination

Art Unit: 2151

address as taught by Yabe in order to control e-mail deliver(Yabe, col.1, lines 44-46).

One skilled in the art would have been motivated to combine Kowaguchi and Lloyd and Yabe in order to provide a method to deliver e-mail to mobile communication devices(Yabe, col.1, lines 5-10).

Kowaguchi in view of Lloyd in further view of Yabe, however does not explicitly teach deleting the mail message from the forwarding server upon receiving an indication of a successful receipt of the mail message at the destination computer.

Geiger teaches deleting the mail message from the forwarding server upon receiving an indication of a successful receipt of the mail message at the destination computer(col.3,lines 28-35; Geiger teaches business rules to specify actions which can be applied to deleting an email from the forwarding server upon receiving an indication of a successful receipt of the email message at the destination computer).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the method of Kowaguchi in view of Lloyd in further view of Yabe to explicitly add deleting the mail message from the forwarding server upon receiving an indication of a successful receipt of the mail message at the destination computer as taught by Geiger in order to control the number of documents in an organization(Geiger, col.1, lines 15-20).

One skilled in the art would have been motivated to combine Kowaguchi and Lloyd and Yabe and Geiger in order to provide a system control the distribution of email message(Geiger, col.1, lines 7-10).

Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 6,185,605 issued to Kowaguchi in view of US Patent 6,779,178 issued to Lloyd et al.(Lloyd) in further view of EP 1,259,036 issued to Yabe et al.(Yabe) in further view of US Patent 6,073,142 issued to Geiger et al.(Geiger) in further view of US Patent 6,047,326 issued to Kilkki.

Kowaguchi in view of Lloyd in further view of Yabe in further view of Geiger teaches all the limitations of claim 16, however does not explicitly teach means for determining a tally of bits successfully transmitted to the destination address; and means for uploading the tally and the source address to an accounting server which allocates a fee, based upon the tally, to an account corresponding to the source location.

Kilkki teaches means for determining a tally of bits successfully transmitted to the destination address; and means for uploading the tally and the source address to an accounting server which allocates a fee, based upon the tally, to an account corresponding to the source location(Abstract).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the method of Kowaguchi in view of Lloyd in further view of Yabe in further view of Geiger to explicitly add means for determining a tally of bits successfully transmitted to the destination address; and

Art Unit: 2151

means for uploading the tally and the source address to an accounting server which allocates a fee, based upon the tally, to an account corresponding to the source address as taught by Kilkki in order to conduct commerce over the Internet(Kilkki, col.1, lines 21-22)

One skilled in the art would have been motivated to combine Kowaguchi and Lloyd and Yabe and Geiger Kilkki in order to provide a system to charge for usage of an network service connection(Kilkki, col.1,lines 5-9).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See PTO-892.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Backhean Tiv whose telephone number is (703) 305-8879. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 A.M.-12 P.M. and 1 -6 P.M. Monday-Friday.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Zarni Maung can be reached on (703) 308-6687. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2151

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

BT

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2151
8/30/04


ZARNI MAUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER